

From: Mark Hester
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 1:03pm
Subject: MicroSoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am in favor of the settlement as it stands for the DOJ V. Microsoft case.

At this point it appears that the interests and states that are fighting the settlement are doing so in an attempt to gain an unmerited windfall for themselves and their business interests.

MicroSoft has continued to place resources at risk in order to create markets and expand their business; neither of which will happen if they do not have the interest of the consumer at heart. The recent XBOX launch is an excellent example. MS has introduced an innovative OPTION for the public. Has SUN had this opportunity? Yes. Has MS's Windows Operating system limited SUN, or NetScape (AOL), in their creation of new products? No. But their focus on MS and this lawsuit has.

MicroSoft's dominance in the operating system market is overrated by the opponents of the settlement. The opportunity to compete is available to all that want to spend their resources on creative solutions instead of wasting the people's time and money trying to gain an unfair windfall.

Let the settlement stand and let's get on with business.

Respectfully,

John Mark Hester
CEO RedRock Solutions, Inc.
Madison, Alabama
256.656.7879

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